



## Reclamation Research Unit

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Date: October 30, 2006

To: Sue Sillick

From: Stuart Jennings

Re: Progress Report 13. *Evaluation of Organic Matter Addition and Incorporation on Steep Cut slopes, Phase II: Test Plot Construction and Performance Monitoring*

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The thirteenth progress report of Phase II of the above referenced project is attached. The narrative describes work occurring between July 1, 2006 and September 30, 2006.

***Quarterly Progress Report #13***  
**For the period July 1, 2006 – September 30, 2006**

**EVALUATION OF ORGANIC MATTER ADDITION  
AND INCORPORATION ON STEEP CUT SLOPES**

***Phase II: Test Plot Construction and  
Performance Monitoring***

***Prepared For:***

Montana Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 201001  
Helena, MT 59620-1001

***Prepared By:***

Reclamation Research Unit  
Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, MT 59717-2910



October 2006

## **Task Analysis and Discussion**

Field monitoring of research plots at both Happys Inn and Miles City occurred during the third quarter of 2006. Vegetation and erosion assessments were completed. These monitoring events are the final field activities identified in the scope of work for this project. Work on the final report had been previously initiated, yet effort on this product was ramped up during the third quarter of 2006.

### **Task L – Monitoring—3<sup>rd</sup> Year**

Final assessment of the vegetation and erosion condition of research plots was performed during July 2006 at Miles City and September at Happys Inn. Vegetation cover and erosion were measured at both sites. Additionally, above ground biomass was collected at the Miles City site by clipping vegetation by life form. Plant production data was collected at Happys Inn during the summer of 2005. It should be noted that this task was originally included in the project scope, but deleted as a cost saving measure during contract negotiation. Since adequate money remained in the project budget, production data was collected and will be reported in the final report. Collection of the plant production data is outside and above the scope of work and was performed at no additional cost to the sponsor.

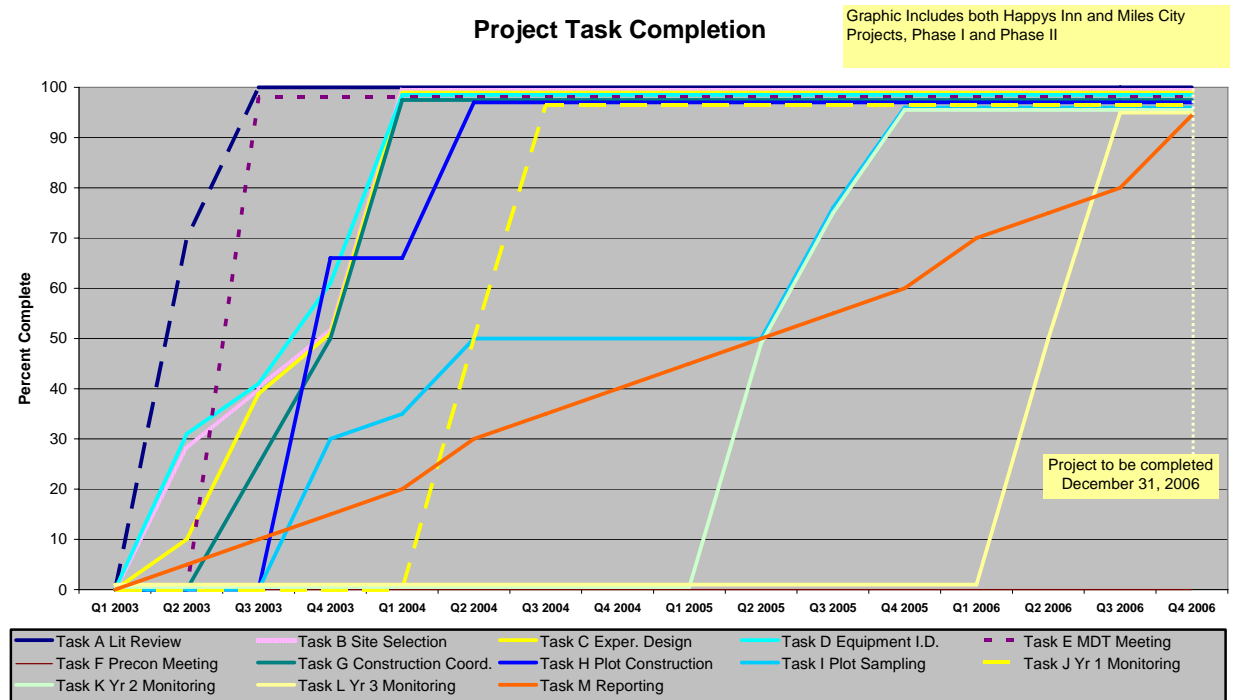
### **Task M - Reporting**

This thirteenth quarterly report satisfies the periodic reporting requirement of the contract. Additionally, work on the final report was performed in anticipation of completing the final report during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

### Schedule and Degree of Completion—all research sites

Task L was completed during the third quarter of 2006. Compilation of the final report, Task M, is all that remains to complete the project. The project will be completed on schedule and on-budget on December 31, 2006. A draft final report is due October 31, 2006. Comments from MDT will be returned by November 30, 2006 and a final report will be prepared in December 2006. This 13<sup>th</sup> progress report will be the final progress report. The final report will satisfy the contractual requirement for reporting. In anticipation of project completion on December 31, 2006, the Project Task Completion figure was extended to the end of the year taking Task M (Reporting) from 80% complete in the third quarter to 100% complete at the end of the fourth quarter.

<i>Task Description</i>	<i>Budgeted Total Phase II</i>	<i>Proposed Schedule</i>	<i>Actual Schedule</i>	<i>Degree of Completion</i>	<i>Estimated Expenditure during current quarter</i>
Task B Site Reconnaissance	\$678	Q3, 2003	Q3 2003, and Q1 2004	100%	0
Task C Experimental Design	\$407	Q4, 2003	Q4 2003, and Q1 2004	100%	0
Task G Construction Schedule Coordination	\$377	Q3, 2003	Q1, 2004	100%	0
Task H Plot Construction	\$36,087	Q4, 2003	Q4, 2003	100%	0
Task I Site Sampling	\$8761	Q4, 2003 and Q3 2005	Q4, 2003 Q3,Q4 2005	100%	0
Task J Year 1 Monitoring	\$13,083	Spring and Fall, 2004	Spring and Fall, 2004	100%	0
Task K Year 2 Monitoring	\$15,912	Spring and Fall, 2005	Spring and Fall, 2005	100%	0
Task L Year 3 Monitoring	\$16,065	Spring and Fall, 2006	Spring and Fall, 2006	100%	\$3776
Task M Reporting	\$16,380	Quarterly and Draft Final Report, Oct 31, 2006	ongoing	80%	\$1000



## Problems and Resolution

No problems were encountered during the current quarter.

## Accomplishments

The final field monitoring events occurred during the third quarter of 2006. Completion of the project now resides in data analysis and reporting.

## Fiscal Expenditure

Amount Spent by budget category:

<i>Cost Category</i>	<i>Spent prior to current quarter (\$)</i>	<i>Spent during the current quarter (\$)</i>	<i>Total spent to date (\$)</i>
Labor and Benefits	\$59,260	\$3,058	\$62,318
Operational Expenses	\$9,237	\$1,133	\$10,370
Subcontracted Services	\$16,764	0	\$16,764
Indirect Charges	\$16,469	\$585	\$17,053
<b><i>Total Spent</i></b>	<b><i>\$101,730</i></b>	<b><i>\$4,776</i></b>	<b><i>\$106,506</i></b>

Total Project Award            \$108,975 (original budget) + \$9,031 (modification April 2004)  
   \$118,006 (total award)

Amount Remaining                \$11,500